

Good afternoon,

The following updates and additions were made to CDC information and guidance on influenza and SARS during the period from January 16 to 22, 2004.

If you have any questions on these or other clinical issues, please call our toll-free Clinician Information Line at **877-554-4625** or write to us at

COCA@cdc.gov

UPDATES TO INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

The following changes were made to CDC's information and guidance between January 16 and January 22:

Influenza

The following additions or changes were made to Web pages dealing with influenza:

Influenza A (H5N1) Outbreak in Vietnam

The Government of Vietnam has reported hospitalized cases of severe respiratory illness in people from provinces surrounding Hanoi beginning in October 2003. Avian influenza A (H5N1) virus infections have been confirmed in some of these patients, and deaths have been reported.

(Visit <http://www.who.int/en/> for updated case counts.)

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/h5n1> outbreak.htm

Weekly Report: Influenza Summary Update, Week ending January 17, 2004 - Week 2

The number of states reporting widespread influenza activity continued to decrease during week 2 (January 11-17, 2004), with the majority of states reporting regional influenza activity. The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza also decreased and the percentage of patient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) declined again in all 9 surveillance regions.

The national percentage of ILI (2.0%) declined below the national baseline of 2.5%. However, pneumonia and influenza mortality (10.3%) continued to exceed the epidemic threshold during week 2 (8.1%).

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

SARS

The following additions or changes were made to Web pages dealing with SARS:

In the Absence of SARS-CoV Transmission Worldwide: Guidance for Surveillance, Clinical and Laboratory Evaluation, and Reporting

This version of the guidance document clarifies that the recommendations apply to situations in which no known person-to-person transmission of SARS-CoV is occurring in the world. Some wording has also been revised for consistency with the companion documents, Public Health Guidance for Community-Level Preparedness and Response to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/guidance/index.htm>

Clinical Guidance on the Identification and Evaluation of Possible SARS-CoV Disease among Persons Presenting with Community-Acquired Illness

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/clinicalguidanceframe2.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/absenceofsars.htm>

Minor updates were made to the following Web pages related to SARS to reflect the current situation and dates:

Questions and Answers on Legal Authorities for Isolation and Quarantine

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/quarantineqa.htm>

The U. S. Response to SARS: Role of CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/roleofdq.htm>

Fact Sheet on Isolation and Quarantine

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/isolationquarantine.htm>

Fact Sheet on Legal Authorities for Isolation/Quarantine

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/factsheetlegal.htm>

If you need further information, please send an email message to coca@cdc.gov.